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 LOW WAS THERE DURING  
 THE STORM. SHE TELLS HER  
 STORY.

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# VALLEY STAR

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

VOLUME 64, ISSUE No. 1

SEPTEMBER 14, 2005

It's *YOUR* NEWSPAPER

## AT YOUR SERVICE

### Counselors Here to Help

■ Part one in a three-part series about services available to Valley College students.

BY EDUARDO MORAN  
 STAFF WRITER

It is the counselors' mission to help students find and reach their goals. They know that most undecided students stop attending college after a while.

"Undecided students are more at risk of dropping out," said Valley College counselor Barbara Goldberg. "They're not sure why they're taking all these classes. If they don't come and get assistance, they stay undecided. They're more likely to drop out because they don't have a goal."

Located in the Administration building, students pursuing occupational certificates, AA degrees or that want to transfer to a four-year institution can get academic advisement from a counselor on a "walk-in" basis or by scheduling an appointment.

The counselors at Valley College also offer career counseling. Students who have not yet chosen a career are given possibilities based on their personal interests, personalities and talents.

"Everytime I've seen a counselor for academic reasons, I've gotten good advice," said broadcasting major Jonathan Rissman. "For new students it really helps to have that advice from a counselor to get the right classes."

Personal counseling is also offered to students when they have personal, family or financial problems. The counselors refer students to other offices throughout the campus, such as student psychological services, or to outside agencies when needed.

Students are also informed

see *Counselor* page 2



**GULF DISASTER** - Hurricane Katrina hit Dade County, Fla. Sept. 3 with winds of up to 92 mph, leaving hundreds of families without homes and lacking food and any means of transportation. *More exclusive photos in Gallery page 8.*

MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR

## Valley Copes with Katrina Aftermath

BY LYNDAY PHILLIPS  
 STAFF WRITER

Hurricane Katrina turned New Orleans into a toxic lake, sending a powerful current all the way to Valley College.

"The tiles were popping out of the floor," said Valley Star photographer Maria Low. "The water was getting into the foundation."

Low was in the Miami area for her father's funeral when Katrina made her first landfall as a Category 1 storm with 80 mph winds. Low and about 20 family members in town for the funeral had to stay in her father's house for three days without power. Her sister had made it through Hurricane Andrew in 1992, and like many in the area took Katrina in stride. Low, however, had a much more California approach.

"I went to the store and started shopping like crazy," she said of stocking up on water and supplies.

Los Angeles resident Marcus Hill was halfway to Xavier University in New Orleans, located less than 5 miles from the now-infamous Louisiana Superdome, when his mother called him with word of the approaching hurricane. He returned safely to Southern California, where his track coaches registered him at Valley.

One friend of Hill's who had already arrived at Xavier evacuated to Arkansas, though another friend still hasn't been found.

Hill's close call inspired him to write a powerful, political song called "Runaway," dedicated to the people of Louisiana and Mississippi.

"But what do we lose sacrificing our giving?" Hill's song asks. "Is a dollar really worth more than the price of the living?"

Hill has already made a big fan out of Valley Vice President of Student Services Yasmin Delahoussaye. "It's lovely," said

Delahoussaye. "I told him I was getting him an agent!"

Then again, Delahoussaye may be partial: She has close ties to the Big Easy.

see *Katrina* page 2

see *Hefferman* page 7

## Aid Available to Struggling Students

BY TAMMY FUNICELLO  
 VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

Students attempting to get the tools needed to make it through their classes on a student's budget have a resource at their fingertips. The Valley College financial aid department offers many different options for students who need assistance in paying for their education.

"If you are struggling to pay for classes you may not have to, so come visit us," said Financial Aid Director Barbara Ralston.

There are multiple types of aid available to students, including grants, scholarships, employment and loans. Students on the run also have the option to apply online rather than on paper. With about 3,500 recipients of the Cal Grant in the 2003/2004 school year filling out the application can be beneficial.

"Financial Aid really helps with the price of books," said 20-year-old biology major Ana Sheh. "I have spent over \$500 on books alone before."

There are a few requirements students must have in order to be considered for aid. For instance, a high school diploma – or the equivalent of – is a must. Students are also required to certify that the aid will be used for educational purposes only.

One of the biggest myths about financial aid is that you must be a full-time student and have straight A's in order to be eligible. That couldn't be further from the truth, according to Ralston.

One of the most popular ways to apply for aid is to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form that can be found online at fafsa.ed.gov or picked up from the financial aid office. The FAFSA makes students eligible for many of the forms of aid offered, such as various amounts of loans and grants.

"The financial aid office helps students reach their academic goals faster," said 29-year-old computer science major Alex Galindo.

Financial aid is still available for fall 2005. For more information students can visit the financial aid office located between the Campus Center and North Gym. The hours are Monday 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., Tuesday 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. until 7 p.m., Wednesday 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. until 7 p.m., Thursday 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. until 7 p.m., and Friday 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. (818) 947-2412.

## Basketball Head Coach Leaves for DePaul

BY ZABIE MANSOORY  
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Glen Hefferman resigned earlier this month as head coach of the Valley College men's basketball team to become an assistant coach at DePaul University in Chicago.

Hefferman finished his first season strong at Valley with a 14-14 record, after starting the season 3-11. Hefferman's team finished in second place in the Western State Conference last year and narrowly missed the playoffs.

Hefferman announced his resignation from Valley on Sept. 1.

"It was a great opportunity for me and my family," Hefferman said of the offer the university in his hometown. "I loved every minute teaching and coaching at Valley College."

Hefferman praised the people he worked with for helping him move on to a Division I A school, including Kenny Williams, Valley assistant coach for the past 12 years. Williams will serve as interim head coach this season.

"He's a basketball junkie," said Williams. "He will be missed."

## Nearly \$1 Million-Grant Up for Grabs

BY LAGINA PHILLIPS  
 ONLINE EDITOR

Student Services is accepting applications for funds made available by its Trio Grant, an \$880,000 disbursement that will provide resources for 160 Valley College low-income, disabled and first-generation students with a GPA of 2.5 or lower.

The grant will provide those students with "Academic Survival Kits" that include laptop rentals, field trip money, Scantrons and blue books, as well as funding a project director for the grant, a counselor and math and English tutors. Students will also receive money that may be spent however the students chose, so long as it's toward educational purposes.

"It's such a wonderful support system for students," said Student Services Vice President Yasmin Delahoussaye, who won the grant after attending a workshop in Arkansas for grant writing. "I'm hoping students line-up at the door to apply for this."

Valley competed against more than 500 colleges and received 299 out of a possible 300 points.

Students who qualify can pick up an application in room 101B of the cafeteria building.

## HELPING HANDS: FINDING THE RIGHT HURRICANE KATRINA CHARITY

BY LYNDAY PHILLIPS AND HOLLY DARE  
 STAFF WRITERS

There are numerous charities reaching out to aid hurricane survivors. The charities listed are in need of money, furniture and volunteers.

Valley College aims to raise \$10,000 toward the California Community Colleges Care: Hurricane Katrina Relief Initiative with the colleges planning to donate over \$1 million. Donation boxes are located in the bookstore, Student Services, Library and Patron's Office.

DreamCenter is a local church that plans to take in up to 250 families and individuals from Louisiana. The church needs money, new underwear, socks, tall dressers and volunteers to help with the effort.

The center accepts monetary donations online. For large gifts of clothing or furniture that will be picked up within a 25-mile

radius, (213) 273-7046. All monies marked "Katrina Relief" will go to families affected by the disaster. Volunteers should contact Shari Deater, at (213) 273-7002. Mail donations to 2301 Bellevue Ave., L.A., CA 90026. www.dreamcenter.org.

Feed the Soul While Helping Feed the Hungry, part of the LA Regional Food Bank is organizing care packages and seeks volunteers for Sept. 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The food bank is located at 1701 E. 41st Place, Los Angeles. Contact Ana Martinez (323) 234-3030. More information, www.volunteermatch.org or www.secondharvest.org

Puppies, Babies & Mommies Too is working with United Way in LaFayette, La and has collected over \$2 million in tangible goods. Volunteers should contact Juan



NEWS REEL

**Los Angeles:** A utility worker's error left more than 2 million Angelinos in the dark Monday. Power was restored within hours but left many feeling vulnerable in the aftermath of Katrina and recent terror threats.

**Washington:** President Bush takes the blame for slow response to Gulf disaster. "Katrina exposed serious problems in our response capability at all levels of government," the president said. "And to the extent that the federal government didn't fully do its job right, I take responsibility."

**Guantanamo Bay:** 128 prisoners are refusing food and liquids as the hunger strike that began in August gains momentum. More than a quarter of the detainees are demanding release or due legal process to fight the charges against them. The military has hospitalized and force-fed 18 prisoners in recent weeks.

# Campus VP Returns After Cancer Battle

By LAGINA PHILLIPS  
ONLINE EDITOR

After nearly a year of doctor's appointments, radiation treatments and chemotherapy, a key figure at Valley College is returning to resume doing what she loves: serving students.

Student Services Vice President Dr. Yasmin Delahoussaye is back following a seven-month medical leave after being diagnosed in January with breast cancer.

"She's back where she belongs," said Tino Manzano, dean of enrollment and management, who helped fill-in for Delahoussaye. "She has a legacy of cooperation on campus. She really cares for her students."

One of Delahoussaye's proudest feats in office was when a student who was living out of his car came to her for help. He wanted to take classes in the upcoming semester, but was unable to sign up for them until the previous semester's classes were paid for. She made phone calls, pulled strings and

was able to pay his debt through many means, including reaching into her own pocket, to get him on his feet.

"The interaction with the students is what I missed most," said the 53-year-old of her time away from Valley College, where she has worked for nine years. "The best part of my day-to-day job is working with students."

Delahoussaye said that she couldn't have made it through the ordeal without the overwhelming support from students and faculty from Valley. She said that every time she felt down she would pick up one of the 425 cards she received.

"The support was unreal," she said. "Some students kept in constant contact." Delahoussaye advises any student going through a similar situation to talk to somebody who has been there. A couple of students who had recovered from breast cancer themselves contacted her and gave her advice on the many aspects of the illness she had to learn about, like how to read the pathology report and that it's

OK to get a second opinion.

"There is a wealth of information out there," said Delahoussaye, who has built an impressive library of health and cancer information while researching the illness and believes that "while it's scary to get that news, you have to be proactive."

Delahoussaye is doing just that. She will be featured in the Oct. 18 Lifetime channel special "WomenRock! Our Journey with Melissa Etheridge," sharing her experience. She also plans to write a book about her battle to help others.

Breast cancer is the leading cancer among women, and while one in seven women will be diagnosed with the disease in her lifetime, early detection is key for a successful recovery, according to the American Cancer Society. Women can detect signs of cancer themselves with self-exams.

Associated Student Union adviser Sherri Rodriguez split Delahoussaye's duties with Manzano during the vice president's leave. Those tasks included overseeing student discipline and student-oriented projects such as the Pat Allen Book Loan Fund and the Trio Grant. Filling Delahoussaye's shoes was no easy task, according to Rodriguez.

"The energy she has to sustain everything is admirable," Rodriguez said, adding that Delahoussaye goes above and beyond the expectations of her job. "The word that comes to mind when I think of her is 'passionate.'"

Rodriguez and students Lalo Vasquez, Francesca Pagnotta, Nydia Gasperi and Ashley Rucks raised \$1,650



MELANIE SALDANA / VALLEY STAR  
**SURVIVOR** - Student Services Vice President Yasmin Delahoussaye has returned from a seven-month medical leave after doctors diagnosed her with breast cancer in January.

in Delahoussaye's name at the 2005 Revlon Run/Walk in May for the fight against women's cancers.

Delahoussaye is still undergoing chemotherapy treatments and radiation therapy. She knows the battle is not over, but retains her characteristically positive outlook.

"Think 'yes' before you say 'no,'" she said. "I try to live by that credo."

For more stories and photos, go online to [www.lavalleystar.com](http://www.lavalleystar.com)

## Picking up the Pieces: Katrina's Boundless Impact

Katrina continued from page 1

Delahoussaye's cousin by marriage, Kenneth Burnell, is the Deputy Judicial Administrator of the Civil District Court of New Orleans and lives in St. Tammany Parish, north of I-12 and just 4 degrees longitude outside of Katrina's eye. His home suffered minimal damage and he has not needed to evacuate.

On September 5, Burnell and his wife celebrated his birthday in their home with two stale brownies and no electricity. Family members scattered in shelters across the country sang "Happy Birthday" to him over the phone.

"My mom always bakes a cake for my birthday," Burnell said. "46 years, I always had my birthday cake."

But Burnell's mother was evacuated to an Atlanta shelter where her needs as a diabetic can be taken care of. Katrina destroyed her home and when she is able to return to the New Orleans area, she will have to live with her son.

"There's a lot of things folks take for granted; they don't anymore," Burnell said. "For me, it was a shower. I almost cried it felt so good."

Meanwhile, Valley students are doing what they can to make life livable again for the victims.

ASU President Nelli Martirosyan has

helped coordinate a donation drive, beginning the first step of a four-tier assistance program.

Donation boxes are located throughout campus (see sidebar) with the goal of collecting \$10,000 toward the California Community Colleges Care: Hurricane Katrina Relief Initiative, according to a letter from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. The colleges aim to raise over \$1 million.

Plans at Valley include donation delivery, evacuee sponsorship and an event featuring the historical and cultural background of the Mississippi Delta. The most hands-on event the ASU wants to organize is a spring break trip to the affected areas, where students will have the opportunity to help rebuild schools and homes.

While it may take years to restore the beauty and inspiration that is New Orleans, washing away the spirit of its people will take much more than a storm.

"We a little different," said Burnell. "We think a little different, we have a different culture, different dialects of people. And we let everybody keep their culture, everybody loves everybody. Hopefully it spreads like cancer. There gonna be New Orleanians all over the country."

## Assisting Katrina's Victims

Charity continued from page 1

Ramos (323) 595-8923. Volunteer location 7635 Airport Business Parkway, Van Nuys, from 9 a.m. to 12a.m. [www.bel-lapooch.org](http://www.bel-lapooch.org).

Islamic Relief will focus on helping victims in Baton Rouge, Houston, and Mobile, Ala. They are setting up relief operations and distributing water, food and hygiene kits. Islamic Relief also plans an emergency shelter and will assist in the clean-up.

Islamic Relief is seeking volunteers who can provide their own transportation and housing in these areas. Financial donations are accepted at [www.irw.org](http://www.irw.org) or by mail: 1919 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA 91506. Call (818) 238-9520 for volunteer information.

Oxfam works with local relief agencies to help people who earn their living

off the land and sea and has already donated to organizations in the Gulf, working to help displaced farmers and shrimpers. Donations of \$15 and above is accepted online at [www.oxfam.org](http://www.oxfam.org) or any amount by mail: Oxfam America, 26 West Street, Boston, MA 02111.

LSU School of Veterinary Medicine is dealing with the thousands of displaced pets and helping veterinarians. The school has needs supplies and experienced animal handlers in the Baton Rouge area.

To arrange shipment of donations or volunteer, call 225-578-6111 or visit [www.vetmed.lsu.edu/#donations](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/#donations). Monetary donations should be notated for animals, veterinarians or greatest need. All income goes to caring for the animals or their veterinarians.

## Academic Guidance Offered to Students

Counseling continued from page 1

of resources and special services that they can benefit from such as computer labs and Financial Aid. The programs available at the counseling department include the Transfer Alliance Program and the Service Learning Program. Specific counselors for international students, veterans and Puente Project students are also located in the counseling department.

Counselors advise students to come prepared with questions to get the most out of the counseling department.

"[Students] should take the placement test so counselors can assess the students' needs," said counselor Ramiro Rosillo.

Students with foreign transcripts may see a counselor before registering, and they will be sent to agencies where the transcripts can be evaluated. When possible, students without a high school diploma are referred to local adult schools to get their diploma or G.E.D.

### CAMPUS CRIME

## The Bicycle Thief

■ Student's bicycle stolen; Vandals damage campus building.

By EDUARDO MORAN  
STAFF WRITER

#### Theft

A student's bicycle was stolen from a bike rack on the north side of the South Gym between 6:30 p.m. and 9:25 Tuesday, Sept. 6. The victim found his bicycle lock had been cut with an unknown tool and the bike was missing. Campus police conducted a search of the area but found no suspects or witnesses.

The Valley College Sheriff's Department asks that anyone with information regarding any of these incidents please call the department at (818) 947-2911.

#### Vandalism

Vandals caused \$100 in damage when they marked a wall and a chain-link fence on the north side of the Spectrasite Communications building between midnight and 8:45 a.m. Friday, Sept. 2. The vandals wrote a list of initials. No suspects or witnesses have been reported.

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# Incompetence Begins at Home

By BRIAN DEAN  
STAFF WRITER

Regardless of the reasons why some people decided to ride out Hurricane Katrina in their homes instead of seeking higher ground, those in positions of authority who should have known better failed to act quickly and effectively.

A 2004 simulation, staged by the National Weather Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Louisiana State University (LSU) Hurricane Center, and other state and local agencies simulated the effects of a category 3 storm hitting New Orleans. The exercise predicted the levees would be topped by the storm surge, causing catastrophic damage to the city. Up to 300,000 residents would be trapped and 600,000 buildings destroyed by rising waters.

Hurricane Katrina was near a category 5 storm.

This information was not classified; it was available to the public, and especially to emergency planners. One day before Katrina hit Louisiana, Ivor van Heerden, Deputy Director of the LSU Hurricane Center, made it clear that this storm would be "absolutely worst-case scenario."

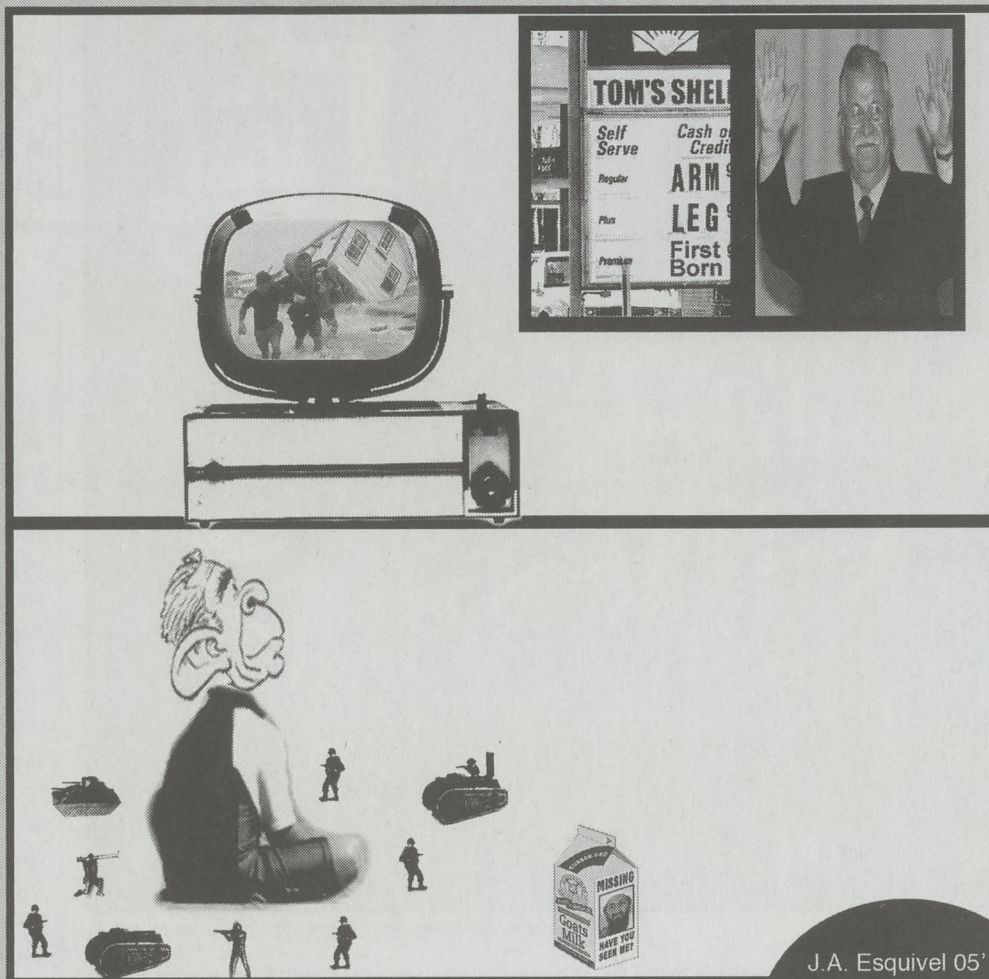


ILLUSTRATION BY JESUS ESQUIVEL / VALLEY STAR  
**RITALIN COULD HAVE SAVED THOUSANDS** - The Bush Administration's Dumbfoundedness Disorder

Despite these ominous projections, Mayor Ray Nagin's actions conveyed less urgency than his words. While he upgraded his initial voluntary evacuation to a mandatory evacuation, he apparently made little effort to facilitate this order.

The Southeast Louisiana Hurricane Evacuation and Sheltering Plan states that

school buses and other government-owned vehicles should be used "for individuals who lack transportation and require assistance in evacuating." However, today dozens of buses remain parked and unused, just minutes from the Superdome.

Mayor Nagin failed to provide Orleanians with adequate resources to adhere to evacu-

ation plans established by the state of Louisiana. An estimated 112,000 residents do not own cars. And though New Orleans Regional Transit Authority buses were used to ferry people from 12 staging areas to emergency shelters, many residents rescued from their homes have complained of their inability to leave due to lack of transportation.

Perhaps thousands would not have been marooned in attics and on rooftops had every effort been made with every available resource. With these people out of danger, the job of rescue workers would have been less daunting, facing only the diehards who even now refuse to leave their property.

The purpose of federal assistance is for to fill the gap when the task at hand is beyond the capability of the local authorities. Federal officials deserve their share of blame for their lackluster response to pleas for help, but the local government is first in line for bearing the responsibility of protecting its people.

# Groping through Arnie's Budget

By CARLOS LOPEZ  
STAFF WRITER

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger released his May revision of the state budget and from what it looks like, California community colleges will be positively affected.

Just remember though, looks can sometimes be deceiving.

We can see a good example of this in the special elections that the governor is now trying to postpone due to voters' lack of interest.

It seemed like something that couldn't wait, but voters didn't feel the same.

The revised budget still states that there will be no increase in student fees for community colleges and it offers a few ways to increase funding for them.

This includes a supplementary \$40 million to equalize per-student funding at all community colleges. The man seems to be getting it now, right?

The revision also adds about \$14 million for various programs that will reflect cost-of-living increases.

It proposes an increase of \$10 million for community colleges to assist in funding for additional marginal cost support, equipment, and infrastructure costs to increase nursing program capacity by at least 1,800 additional slots to help the nursing shortage in the state.

How ironic.

Arnold is now helping the nurses, which — along with law enforcement, teachers, and fire-

fighters — he referred to as "special interest" and has been in rancorous conflicts with for the past eight months.

Besides that though, all of this sounds great and it seems like things are looking up for community colleges and for the students who attend them.

Is it really all it's cracked up to be though?

It really does seem like all this information has no flaws, so in reality, the problem is not really what the proposal is.

Not to beat a dead horse, but if something does go wrong with the budget revision, it is possible that again it will be Gov. Schwarzenegger not being able to keep a promise.

We have yet to see any of the \$2 billion in tax revenues that the governor "borrowed" from schools last year, money that was guaranteed under Proposition 98.

By the way, Proposition 98 guarantees that more than 40 percent of any and all new state revenues to schools and community colleges, which the governor agreed not to interfere with.

So in just this one instance, the governor has broken at least two promises, but maybe he's just being a politician with one of his few "white lies."

Let's not take credit away from the man though, the proposal could help out Valley College along with all the other community colleges in the state — but Arnold, let's try not to break any more promises.

## WE'RE NOT PSYCHIC!

So tell us what's on your mind! Contact The Valley Star at thevalleystar@yahoo.com, drop by the newsroom at BJ114 or call us at (818) 947-2576.

Letters should be limited to 300 words and may be edited for publication.

# Campus Safety Raises Burning Questions

By MAGGIE OWNBEY  
OPINION EDITOR

■ **Lights, Cameras, but it could take until next year before they're put into action.**

Imagine a campus with computer programmed lights that all come on just as nighttime falls, call boxes that put you in direct contact with the sheriff's department and security cameras to discourage crime or at least catch a graffiti artist at work—by this time next year this could be Valley College.

We've got the money. Remember Proposition A/AA? Voters earmarked about \$285 million for Valley construction projects—so what's the hold-up?

There must be absolutely unmoveable, insurmountable obstacles stopping these improvements, which could protect the students, from being put in place.

"There's really nothing stopping them," said Vice President of Administration Tom Jacobsmeyer. "But, everybody assumes that you can just add water and you've got something, and it doesn't happen that way."

The planning stages are causing the delays. Is this a recipe for disaster? Not trying to cause a panic here—just trying to raise the level of concern. After all, we all saw what happened when the Bush adminis-

tration dilly-dallied on FEMA preparations and New Orleans "just added water."

One of the frequent complaints, especially from female students, is that the parking lots are not sufficiently lit, inviting unsavory incidents.

At about 12:30 p.m. on Monday a citywide power outage caused a blackout on campus that lasted for nearly a hour and a half.

If this had happened during night classes, the exterior lights would have surely come right back on after the initial blackout, right?

"The parking lot would have been dark," said Jose Ornelas, a general foreman located at Plant Facilities. "The timers on the lights stopped," which means that no emergency generator would have turned the lights back on.

We need the upgrades now—no more what ifs. Because one generator that services only the campus center and only for a max of four hours doesn't cut it.

Remember the Grant High School riot in March that resulted in a three-hour lockdown of that campus? That was a little too close to home for comfort.

And just this summer a man whom campus security officers believed was under the influence of narcotics walked onto the campus in the early morning hours, confronting officers outside the sheriff's station. Authorities say he became erratic, throwing a brick at one of the

officers and resulting in a security officer shooting the man.

Officials call this an isolated incident. Once is enough of a reason to get the construction under way.

With upgrades from to computer-operated lights having a mile-long list of complicating factors, including higher construction bids, obstructing trees that can only be cut at certain times of the year, department-of-state architecture codes, call box companies that are unresponsive and that age old question—can we afford it?—this is clearly not an easy job.

**There must be absolutely unmoveable, insurmountable obstacles stopping these improvements ... right?**

There's no disputing Jacobsmeyer's desire to complete the much-needed safety improvements; he lights up like a kid at Christmas when he demonstrates how one of the new call boxes will work.

And just last August he ran an emergency response drill here at Valley—a full scale drill with outside emergency responders—we're the only campus in the district to do that.

No one is doing any finger pointing, and until the networks do "Extreme Makeover: College Edition," we know this will take

longer than a week.

But, the fact remains that this is an open campus—we're not fenced in. Even if we put up Valley Glen's version of the Great Wall of China, fences don't guarantee our safety. And besides, who wants to go to school at Sing-Sing?

We just want come to a campus that's as safe as possible—as soon as possible.

Having more security officers patrolling around campus and, in particular, the parking lots helps, according to Deputy Tom Lynche, team leader of Valley's Sheriff's office. "Our big goal is just being visible—that deters a lot of crime."

There is safety in numbers. Our sheriff's department does the best job they can with the crew they have, but even Deputy Lynche admits they are understaffed.

It may take longer than any of us would like for our dream campus to be complete so in the meantime, use the lighted path and common sense: don't walk to your car at night alone. Call the sheriff's department for an escort from your nighttime class.

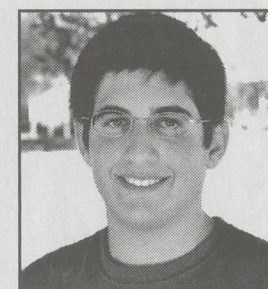
One day they will be accessible from the new call boxes, but for now, students should call 947-2911 if they are concerned about going it alone. Deputy Lynche suggests programming that number into your cell phone.

But there's no need to worry about campus safety right now. Right?

# Campus View

*What do you think of the federal response to the Katrina disaster?*

PHOTOS BY MELANIE SALDANA

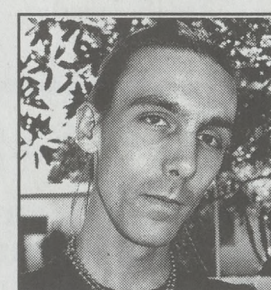


"It was horrendous. The systems weren't organized."

-Jay Lytton  
Major undecided

"It was horrible. The response to citizens should have been in a couple of hours or a day at the most."

-Ladonna Goodin  
Nursing Major



"An obvious sham. Another hush-hush operation by our failure of a government."

-Justin Benti  
Foreign Language Major

"Government knew years ago that this was coming; they should have had things ready to go."

-Leah Bassoni  
Nursing Major



■ **Make your voice heard! Participate in the online poll at [www.lavalleystar.com](http://www.lavalleystar.com)**



WEDNESDAY  
TO TUESDAY

Wednesday, Sept. 14

## Hanson

7 p.m. an 9:30 p.m.  
The Roxy Theatre  
\$30

Thursday, Sept. 15

## Los Angeles Philharmonic

8 p.m.  
Hollywood Bowl  
\$1-\$92

Friday, Sept. 16

**Movie Releases:**  
"Corpse Bride" (PG)  
(Limited Release)  
"Lord of War" (R)  
"Just Like Heaven" (PG-13)

Saturday, Sept. 17

**Rock to Make a Difference**  
8 p.m.  
Knitting Factory  
Hollywood  
\$25-\$30

Sunday, Sept. 18

## Jay Leno

7 p.m.  
Comedy and Magic Club

Monday, Sept. 19

**Scars of Tomorrow**  
7 p.m.  
Showcase Theatre  
\$10

Tuesday, Sept. 20

**DVD Releases:**  
"The Longest Yard"  
(Widescreen Edition)  
"Bob Dylan-No Direction Home"**This Weeks Television Highlights:****Wednesday**  
CBS Sneak Preview  
8 p.m.  
CBS**Thursday**  
Survivor: Guatemala  
8 p.m.  
CBS**Friday**  
What I Like About You  
8 p.m.  
WB**Saturday**  
"Armageddon"  
8 p.m.  
ABC**Sunday**  
57th Annual Emmy Awards  
8 p.m.  
CBS**"Pearl Harbor"**  
7 p.m.  
ABC**Monday**  
Just Legal  
Series Premiere  
9 p.m.  
WBCSI: Miami  
Season Premiere  
10 p.m.  
CBS**Tuesday**  
NCIS  
Season Premiere  
8 p.m.  
CBSBig Brother 6  
9 p.m.  
CBS

## Surreal Sideshow in Noho

BY JESUS ESQUIVEL  
STAFF WRITER

The California Institute of Abnormalarts is what you would get if P.T. Barnum, David Lynch and Tim Burton got together, dropped acid and decorated a theater up the street from the North Hollywood Arts District on Burbank.

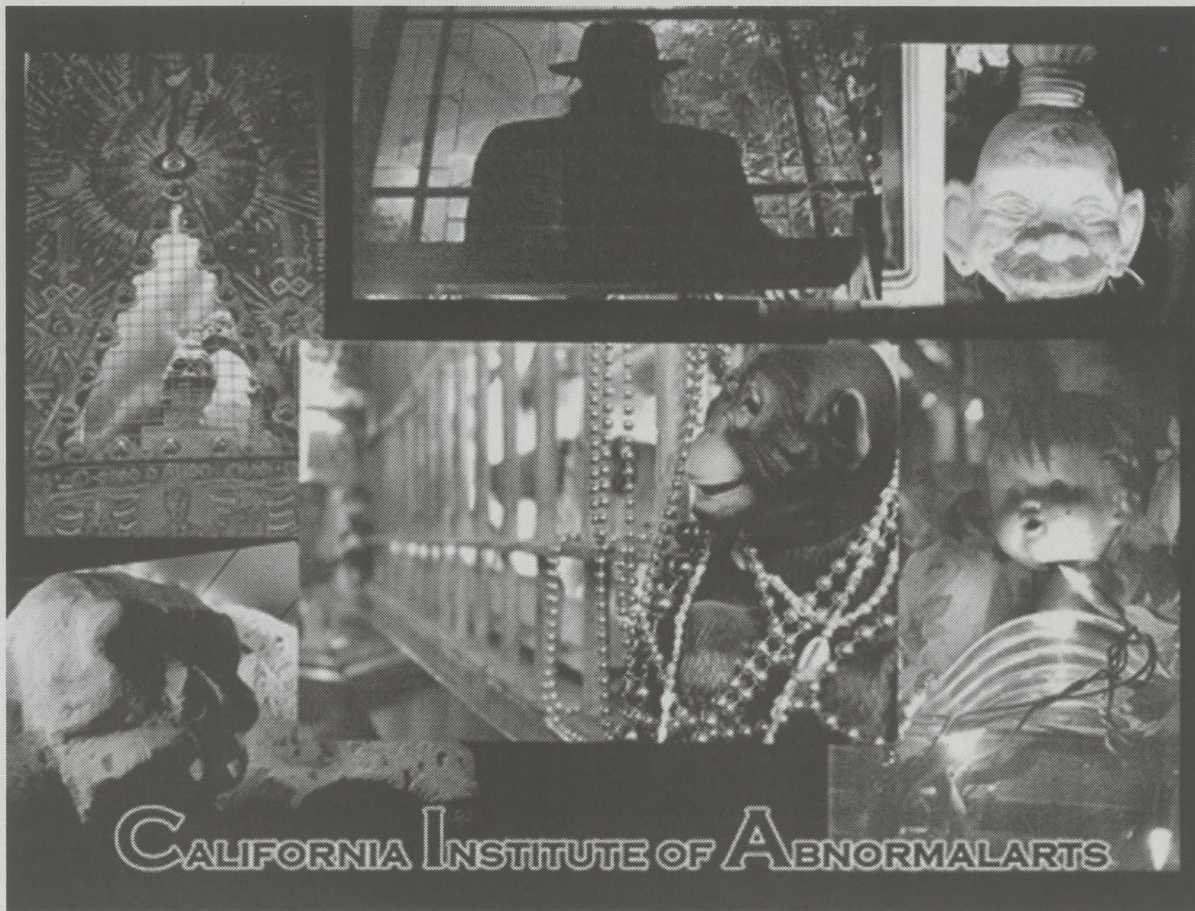
Circus sideshows, underground music and art films bombard the senses with audio and visual overloads at this psychedelic weekend spook house known better as the C.I.A.

This place is great," said first-time patron Irene Rivera. "But I get these weird vibes."

The gas mask-wearing mannequin pirates are creepier than any Disneyland ride. There are candles and incense around shrines that hint at voodoo. A cozy green bar boasts Tutankhamun's crypt in one corner and what you hope is the statue of a clown near the warped fireplace just across the Alligator Boy exhibit.

"The decorations just spill out of us," co-owner Carl Crew said. "There is no summoning of ideas."

To match the surreal decor, the C.I.A. exhibits and maintains eerie relics such as the mummified clown corpse of Achile Chatouilleu, the cursed severed arm of Claude De Lorraine and the skull of Tom Thumb, the worlds smallest Freemason.



**SUPERNATURAL-** Not only is the Burbank-based California Institute of Abnormalarts eccentric, but to some, it is downright freaky. Mummified clown corpses, skulls and severed body parts makes the CIA thrilling, but not for the squeamish.

Admission, usually \$10, grants access to the exhibits, the beer and wine bar, the outdoor smoking patio that doubles as a movie theater and the main indoor stage area.

Most weekends, the venue hosts live music in the main room, while projecting avant-garde short films on a screen in the patio area. But it also

has residual events like "Fright Night," a combination of horror feature films and music. There is also "Rasputin's Traveling Minstrel Marionette Show" and Lenora Clare's surreal cabaret, "Apocalipstick."

The venue attracts all kinds of people. Like a ringmaster would say, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls of all ages.

The C.I.A. is like stepping into another world. Crew mentioned that they have a two-headed petting zoo event coming up, how much more abnormal can it get?

The institute is located at 11334 Burbank Blvd. in North Hollywood and is open on weekends from 8:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

## WiFi? Because You Can

■ Got a laptop? You can use the free wireless Internet connections that are available around campus.

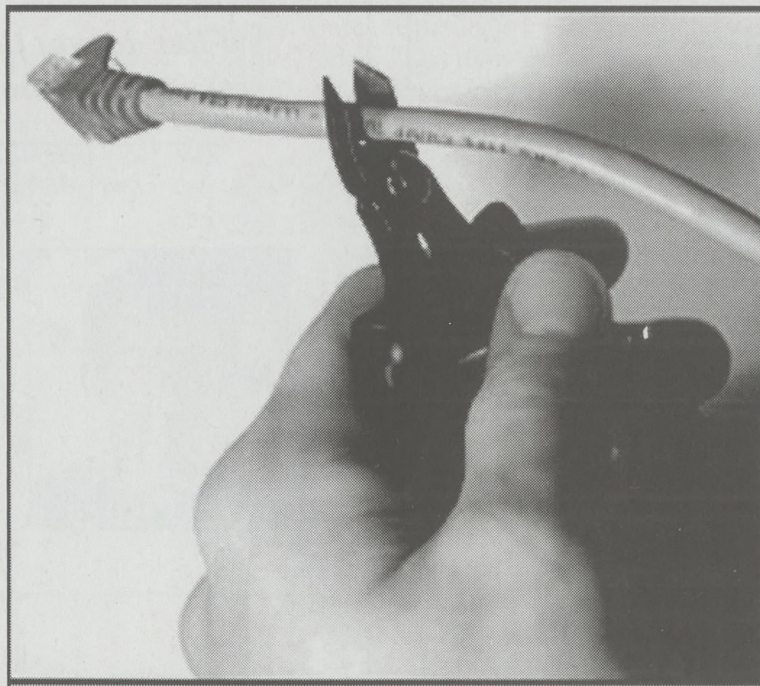


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DAN VILLASENOR / VALLEY STAR

BY WILL REYES  
STAFF WRITER

With the growing number of college students using laptops, along with the recent reductions in their cost, free wireless Internet access points, or "Wi-Fi hot spots" are becoming much more common - including on college campuses.

Valley College has joined the new era of wireless access by introducing its own network for students to use their laptops at different locations. The LAVC Wireless Network has four high traffic areas designated as "hot spots" for students. The cafeteria, Campus Center's Fireside Room, the periodical area and group study room in the library are all places where

wireless users can log onto the school's Internet.

The easy to use system, which has been at Valley College for two years, has had

## The LAVC Wireless Network has four high traffic areas designated as "hot spots" for students.

a positive performance record with the students who use it.

"We're happy that most students don't contact us," said Jorge Mata, the LAVC manager of information systems. "That means we're doing a good job."

In order to use the network, students need to be currently enrolled in classes at Valley and follow a few simple steps. First, you need a wireless hardware card supporting the 802.11 (Wi-Fi) protocol. Some laptops come with a card built-in. If you need to buy one, they can be found at the Valley book-

store or any electronics store, ranging in price from about \$40 to \$70. Then, users must install the wireless cards onto their laptops by following the easy card setup instructions.

Once the card setup is complete, students can access the network by opening their browser. A security certificate alert will appear, which must be accepted by choosing "Yes", and then a login screen for LAVC wireless network will pop up.

Signing onto the network requires students to type in their Universal Internet Access username and password, which can be found by visiting the LAVC web site at [lavc.edu/IT/student-tuia.html](http://lavc.edu/IT/student-tuia.html)

"We've had a positive response," Mata said. "It's just that a lot of students don't know about it. We're looking forward to more hot spots in the future."

The wireless network is currently accessible within 100 feet of the locations marked with the Hot Spot logo. The college hopes to expand the network if more students demand it.

## Places to Hangout on Campus

■ The campus is full of places for students to relax and study.

BY WILL REYES  
STAFF WRITER

Walking into Valley College as a new student can feel quite intimidating, with more than 17,000 students milling about. The campus is actually very friendly and offers various refuges designed to assist in both academic and social areas.

The school cafeteria building provides the most popular campus hangout - the Lion's Den - where students can eat or study, do homework on one of the 25 Internet-ready, print-out-capable computers, relax on a sofa in front of the big screen TV, or play pool or air hockey. The Lion's Den is a favorite of students, giving them a variety of ways to meet new people and pass the time between classes.

It's one of the most active areas on campus, receiving visitors who come to watch TV and movies, study, or relax.

"It's unique in that it's an entirely student funded area," said Sherri Rodriguez, Associate Dean of Student Services.

The facility, open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., has a paid staff and is entirely student-funded by ASU fees and activities.

"This is just the first day," said Bayan Hodayaty, a cinema major who works at the counter. "Give it a week and this place will be even more packed."

In contrast to the high energy of the Lion's Den, the campus also has a much quieter spot for its students. The "Horseshoe" is a brick seating area underneath a clump of trees, just outside the Campus Center building. It affords students a place to sit and relax while studying or hanging out with friends.

Whether students choose to spend their on-campus hours playing pool and watching movies in the Lion's Den, or finding quiet time at The Horseshoe, or simply studying in the library, the campus provides excellent places to enjoy the college experience.

## Other Campus Hangout Spots

## The Lab for Academic and Instructional Resources (LAIR)

Phone: 818-947-2425  
A computer lab open to all Valley students, located in the library building, features 50 computers with free Internet access.  
Hours:  
Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

## The LAVC Library

Phone: 818-947-2425  
Fall 2005 Hours:  
Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Saturday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

## A Message From the Star's Editor in Chief

■ New Valley Star editor-in-chief encourages reader response.

BY ZABIE MANSOORY  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Readers,  
I am Zabie Mansoori, the Editor in Chief of the Valley Star, your newspaper, for Fall 2005.

We are here to serve the campus by providing the most important news about what affects us as students.

This is my fifth semester at

Valley College and third writing for the Star. Last spring, I served as the sports editor.

I am a 19-year-old journalism major who is looking forward for a great and productive semester.

For the first time in many years, we are publishing in the second week to inform you about the pressing issues for new students.

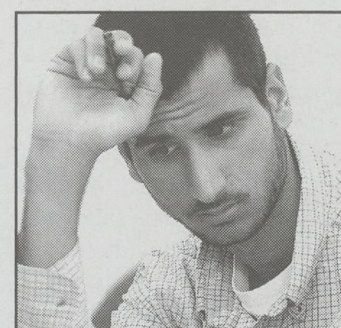
In this issue, you will find stories about grants, financial aid, a book-loan program, book exchanges, campus safety, free

wireless Internet areas and hangouts around the campus.

The Star will publish almost every Wednesday, so look for it at stands around Valley to find out about the campus and beyond.

If students have any questions, concerns or story suggestions, I am available by email at [thevalleystar@yahoo.com](mailto:thevalleystar@yahoo.com) and by phone at (818) 947-2868.

We invite readers' response and plan to print your letters in our opinion pages. I hope to hear from you soon.



KHADIJAH ABDULLAH / VALLEY STAR

**NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN** - Zabie Mansoori picks up the reigns as editor in chief of the Valley Star.



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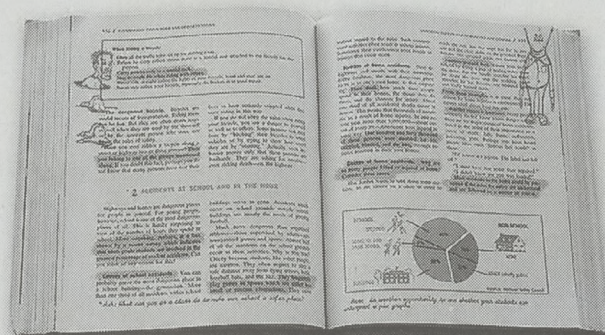
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### COLLEGE SURVIVAL TIP

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Along with the books of a Dean's-Lister, *Free Checking* from Washington Mutual is all you really need to skim through school in style. For more information, visit your local Washington Mutual Financial Center or call 1-800-788-7000.

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\*Offer is for qualified Apple Education Individual end-user purchasers only. Excludes 12-inch iBook with CD-ROM drive, eMac, and Mac mini models. Rebate is for up to \$179 off of an iPod, iPod mini, or iPod photo (excludes iPod shuffle). Additional terms apply. See Official Offer Coupon or visit [www.apple.com/go/backtoschool](http://www.apple.com/go/backtoschool). \*\*\$479 savings based on \$300 education discount on purchase of a 17-inch PowerBook and \$179 rebate on a qualifying iPod. TM and © 2005 Apple Computer, Inc. All rights reserved.



LAVC SCORES

**Men's Cross Country@ Ventura Invitational 09/09**  
**Santa Barbara: 176 points**  
**LAVC: 124 points**  
**Santa Monica: 93 points**  
**Pasadena: 72 points**  
**Ventura: 54 points**  
**LATC: 21 points**  
 Valley placed second at Invitational

**Men's Water Polo@ Ventura Tournament 09/09-10**  
**vs. Rio Hondo (w 5-0 Forfeit)**  
**vs. Golden West (L 13-3)**  
**vs. San Diego Mesa (W 10-9)**  
**vs. Ventura (W 7-6)**  
 Water Polo Record: 5-1

**Women's Water Polo@Cuesta Invitational 09/09-10**  
**vs. Grossmount (L 15-2)**  
**vs. San Jose Delta (L 16-5)**  
**vs. C.O.C. (W 10-5)**  
**vs. Modesto (L 14-1)**  
 W. Water Polo Record: 1-3

**W. Soccer vs. Long Beach (L 11-0) 09/09**  
 Soccer Record: 1-4

**Football@Mt. San Jacinto (L 34-14) 09/11**  
 Jones: 10-26 passing; 71 yards  
 Powell: 2 catches; 22 yards  
 Harper: 4 catches; 35 yards  
 Tisdale: 2 INTs; 42 yards; 1 TD

LAVC SCHEDULE

**Wednesday 09/14/05**  
 No Scheduled Games

**Thursday 09/15/05**  
 No Scheduled Games

**Friday 09/16/05**  
 M. Water Polo@ Mt. Sac Tourney TBA

**Saturday 09/17/05**  
 Cross Country@Beaver Invitational 12pm  
 M. Water Polo@ Mt. Sac Tourney TBA  
 W. Water Polo@ El Camino Mini Tourney  
 Football@Moorpark 7pm

**Sunday 09/18/05**  
 No Scheduled Games

**Monday 09/19/05**  
 No Scheduled Games

**Tuesday 09/20/05**  
 W. Soccer@Moorpark 4pm

**Wednesday 09/21/05**  
 W. Soccer vs. San Diego City 4pm

**Thursday 09/22/05**  
 No Scheduled Games

PRO SCORES

**MLB 09/11/05**

**NL**  
**Atlanta@Washington (9-7 ATL)**

**New York@St. Louis (7-2 NY)**

**San Diego@Los Angeles (7-3 LA)**

**AL**  
**Kansas City@Detroit (14-4 DET)**

**Boston@New York (1-0)**

**Anaheim@Chicago (6-1 LAA)**

**NFL 09/08**

**Oakland@New England (30-20 NE)**

09/11

**New York@Kansas City (27-7 KAN)**

**Greenbay@Detroit (17-3 DET)**

**Dallas@San Diego (28-24 DAL)**

**Philadelphia@Atlanta (14-10 ATL)**



For more sport photos and stories, please visit [www.lavalleystar.com](http://www.lavalleystar.com)

SOCCER

Lady Monarchs Struggling to Find Their Groove Early



KHADJAH ABDULLAH / VALLEY STAR

**MISSION ACCOMPLISHED** -Valley wins 5-0 in last Tuesday's soccer game against Mission college.

■ **Lady Monarchs shut out at home 11-0 and fall to 1-4 on the season.**

BY CHRIS GARCIA  
 STAFF WRITER

The Lady Monarchs soccer team was crushed 11-0 by the Long Beach Vikings Friday after recording the team's first win Tuesday with a 6-0 victory over the Mission College Eagles. With the loss, the Lady

Monarchs' record fell to 1-4.

The Lady Monarchs were on the defensive early Friday night as the Long Beach Vikings scored two goals in the first eight minutes of play. The Lady Monarchs could do nothing to stop the attack as Long Beach Vikings scored a total of five goals in the first half.

In the second half, the Vikings went on the attack once more and dominated the demoralized Lady Monarchs by scoring six goals in the second

half. Valley had two scoring opportunities in the second period but both shots sailed by the goal post.

Long Beach scored 11 goals even with two of their starters out due to injury.

"I think the reason we lost was lack of preparation," said team captain Jenny Portillo.

In Tuesday's game, the first goal was scored by Jessica Paul after shooting a strike from 15 yards away. Blanca Valdovinos scored the team's second

goal after shooting it calmly from the right-hand side of the field. Both goals were scored in the first half, as the Monarchs dominated play.

The majority of the ball possession belonged to the Monarchs as they finished the first half leading 2-0.

Captain Portillo was forced out of the game in the first half with a partially torn MCL that will sideline her one to two weeks.

"I don't think my absence

will affect the team but my teammates do," Portillo said.

In the second half, the Lady Monarch offense dissected Mission's defense and capitalized on their mistakes.

Even with their team captain out, Valley opened up the floodgates by scoring four goals in second half. Crystal Martinez contributed with two goals and Michelle Escalilla and Gladys Nyoth each scored one goal. Mission's Morale sunk after the third goal was scored and never recuperated.

The Monarchs' impressive goalie, Michelle Lara, stopped several shots and made it impossible for a Mission comeback.

Tuesday's game was a must win for the Monarchs as it was their first conference game of the season.

*"If we can do well in our conference, we can make it to the playoffs."*

"Playing well in the conference is what matters," said Head Coach Erik Archila "If we do well in our conference we can make it to the playoffs."

With nine returning players, Archila hopes that Tuesday's game is a sign of things to come as the Lady Monarchs look to compete with last year's conference champion College of the Canyons for this year's conference title.

Making The Best of The Worst

BY SAM HAHN  
 SPORTS EDITOR

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, professional athletes and their leagues have stepped up to aid in the recovery process.

The NFL has donated a million dollars to the Red Cross, while several high profile players around the league have publicly asked for support.

Outspoken Baltimore Raven cornerback Deion Sanders asked players in the NFL, NBA, and MLB to donate a minimum of \$300,000 to the relief effort in a televised interview with ESPN.

Peyton and Eli Manning, who grew up in New Orleans, personally purchased, shipped and unloaded thousands of dollars worth of water and supplies.

New Orleans Saints wide receiver Joe Horn visited refugees at the Houston Astrodome, where he signed autographs, held babies and played games with children.

"Anybody can throw money around at these people, but they need love," said Horn on ESPN. "They need to be able to feel me. So when I leave, I hope they feel a little better."

Saints linebacker Ernie Conwell also favored the personal touch, replacing the engagement ring one couple lost when their home was destroyed in the flood.

In the baseball, the New York Yankees donated a million dollars while the other 29 teams have set up food drives and donation centers at their respective stadiums.

Pro basketball held a "NBA Players Relief Game" on Sept. 6

with the likes of Kevin Garnett, Kobe Bryant and Stephon Marbury. Marbury, who is donating at least \$500,000, said in an emotional press conference that we should all change the way we treat each other.

In addition to the proceeds from the game, the league has donated 2 million dollars and each of the NBA and WNBA teams have set up donation centers.

The two displaced professional teams in Louisiana, the Hornets and Saints, have sought refuge in different parts of the country. The Saints have set up shop in San Antonio and are awaiting word on where they'll start the season, while the Hornets are waiting to see where they will play this season.

To find out more information or to donate visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

FOOTBALL

Eagles Dominate Monarchs

■ **Mt. San Jacinto takes advantage as Valley only musters 116 yards on offense.**

BY NICK SANTONI  
 STAFF WRITER

The Valley College football team was unable to bounce back on the road against the Mt. San Jacinto Eagles Saturday in a 35-14 defeat a week after losing its home opener 16-14 against Pasadena.

"It was long day," said Monarch quarterback Corey Jones. Saturday's game began on a high note for the Monarchs.

Sophomore defensive back Geoff Tisdale intercepted a pass form Eagles' quarterback Matt Ticich and returned it 33 yards for the score. Forty-nine seconds after the kickoff, the Monarchs

had a 7-0 lead. But smiles on the Monarch sideline would soon fade.

On the Eagles' next possession, Ticich marched his team down the field to tie the game. The Eagles knotted the score with the help of a strong kick return by freshman Brandon Sloan.

The scoring play came on a strike from Ticich to wide receiver Christopher Alsina on a post-pattern. The Eagles appeared determined to keep the Monarchs' smiles to a minimum.

The Monarchs' first offensive opportunity ended after three plays and out, a pattern the team would repeat throughout the afternoon contest.

The Monarchs punted 11 times and collected only eight first downs for the game.

The Monarchs had trouble

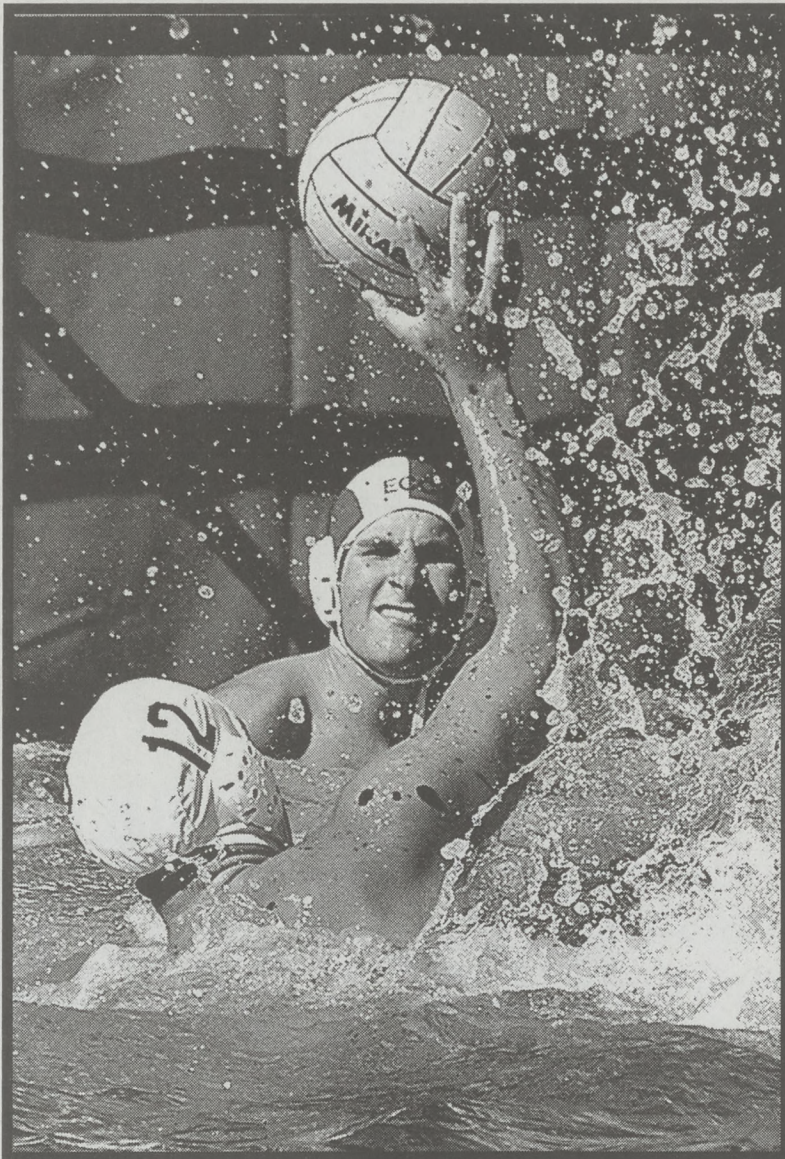
establishing the passing game, gaining a meager 23 yards in the air and 93 yards on the ground. The offense ended the game with 93 yards of total offense.

The Monarch defense would have to do the majority of the work, as it seemed the defensive unit was on the field all day. The offense only controlled the ball for approximately 15 of the 48 minutes.

A critical moment near the end of the first half would define the Monarchs' offensive woes. Trailing 21-14 midway through the second quarter, and on their own 2-yard line, the Monarchs tried to run the ball.

The play ended in a safety and two points for the Eagles.

The Eagles received the ball after the safety and quickly bombed a 57-yard pass downfield for another touchdown, making the score 29-14 with



MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR

**WATER POLO-** Monarchs start off their 2005 season with a 5-1 finish at the Ventura tournament, while the Lady Monarchs open with the season with a 1-3 record at the Cuesta Invitational meet. The Monarchs will play in the Mt. Sac Tournament this weekend from Friday, September 16 to Saturday, September 17. The Lady Monarchs hope to improve their 1-3 season start by entering the El Camino Mini tournament on Friday, September 17.

3:43 remaining in the first half.

The first half ended at a 32-14 Eagle advantage.

Things got worse for the Monarchs' offense as it failed to get close to any scoring opportunities.

"It was a tough game," said first year Head Coach Jimmy Sims. "You can't take away from [the Eagles] D., but in order for us to be successful as a football team, we're going to have to work hard on the offensive end."

As for the Monarch defense, it provided one of the few highlights in the second half by holding the Eagles to a field goal.

"We just have to keep our heads up and keep going," Sims said of the slow start. "At least our defense showed strength in only allowing three points in the second half. But we have work to do."

The Monarchs' next game will be played 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17 at Moorpark College.



Hefferman continued from page 1

## Hefferman Leaves Valley

ing, such as more weightlifting and basic drills.

Currently, 34 players are competing for 15 open spots on the basketball team for the 2005-2006 season, which is mostly made of freshmen players.

Hefferman hopes his players continue to succeed in basketball and in life, sending this

message to his former players: "Keep working hard and focus on your dreams."

Hefferman said, "I consider Williams as a good friend and I advise him to keep working hard and focus on his players."

Valley is accepting applications until mid-November for the full-time head coaching position for the 2006-2007 sea-

son and hopes to announce the new coach in early December.

"We have candidates in mind at this time," said Athletic Director Chuck Ferrero. "All the basketball coaches are in there season at this time."

Men's basketball will open the season Nov. 10 at the Ventura College Tip-Off.

### teaching tip #59

Some superstars get trophies, others get smiles.



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**DISCLAIMER:** PLEASE NOTE THAT INTERN POSITIONS MAY BE FILLED AT ANY TIME.

For more information and to obtain an application please visit:

Michael Flores at the L.A. Valley College  
Coop-Ed Center (Bungalow 48)  
every Thursday from 11am-1pm.

Or visit our website at:

[www.laccd.edu/student\\_information/e7\\_internship](http://www.laccd.edu/student_information/e7_internship)

5

You may also call 310/ 448-8806 for more information

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MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR  
**YOU DON'T NEED A WEATHERMAN TO KNOW WHICH WAY THE WIND BLOWS** - According to the National Weather Service, gusts in Miami reached 92 mph.



MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR  
**HERE COMES THE FLOOD** - Although the damage was nowhere near as widespread as in New Orleans, Miami families in low-lying areas were forced out by flooding.

## Prelude to a Catastrophe

Before wiping out New Orleans and several neighboring cities, Hurricane Katrina tore through Florida. At the time, it was only described as a Category 1 storm, which meant its sustained winds were "only" 80 mph.

Because of the devastation that followed in the Gulf Coast as the storm built to a Category 5, people forget that Miami was lashed by violent winds and flooding as well.

*"The tyranny of the open night's too rough*

*For nature to endure ...*

*The tempest in my mind*

*Doth from my senses take all feeling else*

*Save what beats there ...*

*Pour on; I will endure.*

*In such a night as this!"*

- William Shakespeare, "King Lear"

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARIA LOW



MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR  
**THIS IS NOT HEAVEN** - When the storm made landfall in Miami on Friday, Sept. 3, howling, screaming winds and falling night transformed the city into something terrifying and dangerous. Area airports had to be closed for 24 hours.



MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR  
**THE MORNING AFTER** - Saturday morning found families scrambling for dry ground. This man was lucky enough to have an appropriate vehicle for the circumstance.



MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR  
**NO WAY TO TREET A CAR** - In this relatively minor contact with one of the worst natural disasters in American history, the city has sustained an estimated \$1.9 million in damages so far.